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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008-3687

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No.438/86/8...

January 31, 1986

This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

Reverend Bryan Hehir
Department of Social Development
and World Peace, USCC
1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Father Hehir:

In earlier correspondence, you submitted for consideration by the Holy See a request from Mr. Vincent Melzac to donate a sculpture done by Georgio Spaventa entitled Ecce Homo.

Dr. Walter Persegati, General Director of the Office of Pontifical Monuments, Museums and Galleries, reports that the offer of Mr. Melzac has been accepted by the Contemporary Art Acquisition Commission with the customary clause that no condition of exhibiting the work of art should be attached to the offer. A form is enclosed for the signature of Mr. Melzac.

If the clause is accepted, the sculpture, which has been judged to be very pleasant, could be shipped free of charge to: The Vatican Museums, Governatorato, 00120 Vatican City State, making sure that the air shipment is made directly to the Vatican and not through an Italian forwarder.

Would you be kind enough to forward to Mr. Melzac the attached form for his signature. Further arrangements can be completed directly with Dr. Persegati.

With every good wish and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pro. Capri".

Apostolic Pro-Nuncio